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the state over domestic and foreign corporations, is a pleasing departure from the hackneyed method of a number of other writers who have given these subjects attention. His views are in some respects advanced, but in general he has stated concisely and correctly the best modern theory upon some of the more difficult problems of corporate law.

As to some propositions enunciated by him, he cannot expect to find general acquiescence. Upon the contrary, some of his most positive assertions will not only be disputed, but it is to be hoped that the courts will never establish them as authoritative principles. And it is upon these questions that the author has not used that degree of care which the work in hand required. A number of authorities cited by him not only do not support his assertions, but in several instances it is difficult to understand what prompted their citation. C. G. L.

**SELECTED CASES ON THE LAW OF QUASI-CONTRACTS.** By Edwin H. Woodruff. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1905. pp. xvi, 692. 8vo.

Twenty years ago there was no law book devoted to the law of Quasi-Contracts. It is believed that the subject was not taught, as such, in any law school. The term quasi-contract may be found here and there in the reports, but it was so unfamiliar to the profession that Professor Keener hesitated long before giving to the collection of cases, which was published in 1888, the title "Cases on Quasi-Contracts." Since the appearance of this book, and the same author's excellent treatise upon the subject, issued in 1893, quasi-contracts has become a term in common use, and the subject now forms a part of the curriculum in twenty or more law schools.

Professor Keener's collection, admirable as it is, is somewhat too voluminous for the time that may be properly given to this subject. For this reason, doubtless, two new collections of cases on Quasi-Contracts appeared last year, one prepared by Professor James B. Scott, the other the subject of this review.

Professor Woodruff's book is essentially an American case-book, only 25 of his 305 cases, or 8 *per cent*, being English, whereas 110 out of 285, or 39 *per cent*, in Professor Scott's book, and 208 out of 377, or 68 *per cent*, in Professor Keener's book, are taken from the English reports. The editor must have had a purpose in discriminating against the English decisions, but he does not disclose it. This exclusion of English cases is the chief criticism to be made upon this book. The cases have been chosen with skill, and are well arranged, and the notes of the editor are accurate and helpful. A student who has mastered this collection of cases cannot fail to have a good grasp of the principles of the subject.

J. B. A.

**TRAITÉ DE LA LOCATION DES COFFRES-FORTS.** Par M. Jules Valéry. Paris: Albert Fontemoing. 1905. pp. vi, 151. 8vo.

The comparatively new business of furnishing safe-deposit vaults, compartments in which may be hired by the public, is one that is having great development among all the commercial nations. The work of M. Valéry, who is professor of commercial law at the University of Montpellier, is a thorough study of the legal aspects of this business under the French Code, but with such a broad view of fundamentals and constant reference for arguments and illustrations to English and American jurisprudence, as well as to that of continental countries, that the treatise is of value to readers of all nations who are interested in the subject.

Professor Valéry develops first his theory of the nature of the contract between the company and its customer. Legal writers have put forth three theories, namely, that it is a contract of leasing, or one of bailment, or one of